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OBITUARY NOTE.

Anders Nicolai Kiaer was born at Drammen, Norway, on September 15, 1838, and died at Christiania, April 16, 1919, when he was eighty years of age. Most of his working life was devoted to the study of statistics, national and international, and for a period of more than fifty years, beginning before the sixth International Statistical Congress at Florence in 1867, and ending after the fourteenth and latest biennial session of the International Statistical Institute at Vienna in 1913, he toiled in this field. The International Statistical Congresses elicited the publication of various works on international statistics and among them one by Kiaer on international shipping statistics published in four parts, between 1876 and 1892, and dealing with the merchant marines of various countries, the movement of shipping, and the diverse systems of harmonizing them.

Kiaer attended the Jubilee meeting of the Royal Statistical Society at London in 1885, a leading object of which was to consider the possibility of establishing an International Statistical Association, and there he took part in renewing the ties binding together the statisticians of the various countries, ties many of which had been broken as a result of the Franco-Prussian War and the termination soon after of the series of International Statistical Congresses. At that time the International Statistical Institute was founded, an organization which for thirty years has had one of its vice-presidents a Frenchman, and one a German, while its three presidents have been chosen in succession from England, Austria and Italy. Throughout these thirty years no member worked more unremittingly than Kiaer for the welfare and productivity of the new association, and at the end he shared with Major Craigie the distinction of having attended all but one of the fourteen biennial sessions of that body. He was among the ten Europeans, only three of whom, I believe, survived him, who attended the one meeting of the Institute which has assembled

outside of Europe, that at Chicago, in 1893. He presented to the Institute several committee reports on the representative method in statistics as distinguished from the method of complete enumeration and on demographic inquiries in little known countries or those in which no census had ever been taken. But in later years no subject absorbed more of his time than the birth rate and the fertility of marriages. At the Berlin session of 1903 he made a report on it and presented two works dealing with it, one Norwegian, the other international, which he had recently published. Two years later, at the London meeting, he offered another report on these themes, and again at Christiania in 1897 a further report came from the same source.

W. F. W.